

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re application of: | CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" |
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| James D. Jacobson | "Express Mail" Mailing Label No.: <u>EV 459450513 US</u> |
| |) Date of Deposit July 8, 2004 |
| Serial No. 09/457,173 | I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office Box |
| |) Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above |
| Filed: December 8, 1999 | and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 |
| |) NAME Jason Smalley |
| Group Art No.: 1723 | 0 // |
| Examiner: Sun U. Kim | SIGNATURE |
| Examiner. Buil o. Rim | |
| For: |) |
| MICROPOROUS FILTER MEMBRANE |) |
| METHOD OF MAKING |) |
| MICROPOROUS FILTER MEMBRANE |) |
| AND SEPARATOR EMPLOYING |) |
| MICROPOROUS FILTER MEMBRANES |) |

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached form, which the documents may be material to the examination of this application. A copy of the documents is enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

No inference should be drawn that any apparatus or method disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in

existence. Citation of the document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of the document discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being mailed after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits but before a final action or an action that closes prosecution. The cited information was first called to Applicant's attention in the results of a search conducted by the European Patent Office on April 29, 2004. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2), it is hereby stated: no item of this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the best knowledge of the person signing this certification after making a reasonable inquiry, no

item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to filing of this information disclosure statement. Consequently, as provided in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), a fee under §1.17(p) is not required for the filling of this information disclosure. However, if it is determined additional fee required, that an is then authorization is hereby granted to charge Deposit Account 50-1039 that additional fee.

(A duplicate of this document is enclosed herewith.)

Respectfully submitted,

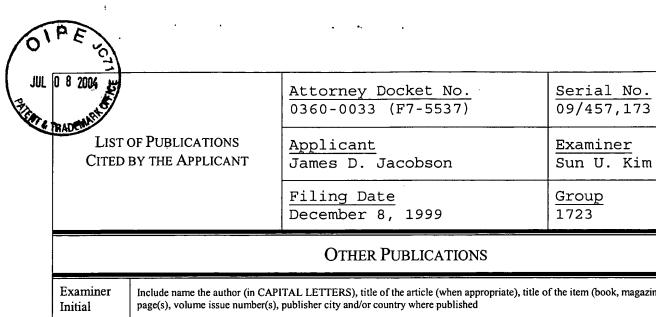
Date: July 8, 2004

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Attorneys for Applicant



Include name the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, etc.), date, English abstract re Japanese Patent Application JP 03-060713 A published March 15, 1991. TRAUTMANN, C. ET AL "Pore Geometry of Etched ION Tracks in Polyimide," Nuclear Instruments & Methods in Physics Research, Section - B: Beam Interactions With Materials and Atoms, vol. 111, no. 1, April 1, 1996, North Holland Publishing Company, Amsterdam, NL.

| E | - | D. A. C | |
|-----------|-------|------------------|--|
| Examiner: | | Date Considered: | |

*Examiner:

Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP form. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.